

**IN THE ABSTRACT:**

Kindly delete the current abstract and substitute the following.

**ABSTRACT:**

Methods for expressing a heteromeric taste receptor that responds to umami taste stimuli are provided. These methods comprise the co-expression of T1R1 and T1R3 nucleic acid sequences in a host cell that desirably also expresses a G protein that couples therewith, e.g.,  $G_{\alpha 15}$  and  $G_{\alpha 16}$  or gustducin. In preferred embodiments, the host cells will be mammalian cells or *Xenopus* oocytes. These nucleic acid sequences are expressed constitutively or under inducible conditions.

In preferred embodiments, the methods will yield mammalian cells that stably express a T1R1/T1R3 umami taste receptor under inducible conditions, e.g., HEK-293 cells that express  $G_{\alpha 15}$ .